



# CITY OF HOUSTON

## Fire Department

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TO: ALL HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT (HFD) APPLICANTS

RE: HFD INFECTION CONTROL REQUIREMENTS

All Houston Fire Department (HFD) applicants shall submit copies of the following immunization/test records to the HFD Infection Control Office either in person or via fax (832-394-6890).

### **HEPATITIS B**

- **Non-Certified Applicants** - must show proof of two Hepatitis B injections. (Should be in compliance with CDC immunization schedule).
- **Certified Applicants** - must show proof of a complete Hepatitis B injection series. (Should be in compliance with CDC immunization schedule). If the applicant has received the complete Hepatitis B series and the records are not accessible, an accredited lab report confirming a Hepatitis B quantitative blood titer greater than or equal to 10 MIU/ml is acceptable.
- **All Applicants** - if the date of the final (3<sup>rd</sup>) Hepatitis B injection is greater than two months prior to finalization of the applicant's immunization records, he/she shall also provide an accredited lab report confirming Hepatitis B quantitative blood titer vaccination series and obtain, at minimum, the first injection of the second series prior to finalization of their immunization records. Any applicant with a Hepatitis B quantitative blood titer less than 10 MIU/ml must provide proof of a completed Hepatitis B vaccination series.

### **TETANUS, DIPHTHERIA AND PERTUSSIS (TDAP)**

Must submit proof of immunization within the past five years. It must be an Adult dose of Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis vaccine. If the applicant has proof of a TDAP vaccine that was administered greater than five years prior to the finalization of the applicant's immunization records, he/she shall also provide proof a TD (Tetanus and Diphtheria) vaccine within the past five years.

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**TB SKIN TEST (TST/PPD)**

Must submit proof of two-step TST completed within the last six months with documented results. The second test must be placed at least 7 days after a negative reading of the first test.

- An accredited lab report providing TB blood test results completed within the last six months is an acceptable substitute for the two-step TST.
- Applicants with a new positive result or a history of testing positive shall provide the results of a negative chest x-ray within the past six months. Applicants providing a chest x-ray shall provide proof a positive TST or blood test.
- Applicants with a positive chest x-ray within the past six months shall provide written documentation from his/her physician attesting to non-communicability.

**MEASLES, MUMPS, RUBELLA (MMR)**

Proof of two doses of the MMR is required.

- The first MMR vaccination is usually recorded in childhood immunization records.
- Each dose must be at least 28 days apart.
- A titer from an accredited lab showing immunity to MMR is acceptable.

**CHICKENPOX/SHINGLES (VARICELLA/HERPES ZOSTER)**

Positive titer proving history of chickenpox disease or shingles, or proof of two doses of the varicella vaccine.

- Applicants who have had chickenpox or shingles must provide an accredited lab report confirming a positive varicella titer.
- Each dose of varicella vaccine must be at least 28 days apart.

Proof of these immunizations/tests will be required prior to the applicant receiving a conditional job offer. Conditional job offers are issued by HFD recruiters.



Terry Garrison  
Fire Chief